Cargo terminal at IGIA

2647. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cargo terminal at Indira Gandhi International Airport has started in full swing;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to certain reports indicating that exporters' associations complaining that export operations had come to a near standstill;

(c) if so, the details of conflicting reports; and

(d) the time by when the cargo terminal at IGI Airport will commence its normal working?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING) SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Reports appeared in certain newspapers which alleged that the export operations at Air Cargo Unit, IGI Airport have come to standstill due to collapse of computer system. The computerised processing of the export documents pertaining to duty free goods and for Drawback at the Air Cargo Unit IGI Airport under the Delhi Customs commenced with effect from 3.6.1996 and 1.11.1996 respectively. Due to the changeover from manual to computerised system the number of documents cleared in the first few days was less than the normal output. To meet the exact requirements of the computerised system, the documents received from exporters had been returned. However, the system has stabilised and is working satisfactorily.

Hunger strike by insurance employees

2648. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the insurance employees all over the country observed 24 hours hunger strike on 27th November, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and financial loss suffered by Government on this account;

(c) whether Government propose to take some steps to redress the grievances of insurance employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Some of the Class III & Class IV employees of insurance industry observed 24 hours hunger strike on 27th November, 1996 at selected centres. The strike was observed to protest against the proposed Bill for making Insurance Regulatory Authority as a Statutory body. As reported by the LIC and GIC no financial loss has been suffered on account of the hunger strike. The management had notified to the employees that absence from office for participating in the strike would be treated as unauthorised and wage deduction will be affected on the principle of 'No-Work No-Pay'.

News-item regarding SBI slipping into foreign hands

2649. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of banking experts have urged Government to 'save' the State Bank of India from slipping into foreign hands as reported in The statesman, dated 16th October, 1996;

(b) whether Government shares the opinion of these experts, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a demand has been made for amendment of SBI Act to limit the equity holding by foreign institutional investors at 20 per cent and if other amendments have been suggested the details of the same; and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard and steps being taken to ensure that Bank is not de-indianised?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A letter was received from one of the non-official Directors on the Board of the nationalised bank expressing apprehension in this regard. SBI's GDR issue was approved by the RBI and the Government on condition that (a) RBI's holding in the equity of SBI should not fall below 55% of the paid-up capital of SBI and (b) non-resident holding of the equity in SBI should not exceed 20% of the paid-up capital. SBI have reported that as on 30.10.1996, the date of exercise of green shoe option under GDR issue, the RBI's holding was 59.726% of the total equity and the non-resident holding including FIIs, OCBs and NRIs was 19.978% of the total equity.

Total deposits/outstanding loans of banks

2650. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of deposits and loan outstanding of Central Public Sector Enterprises and State Public Sector Enterprises, with (i) State Bank of India; (ii) Associate Banks; (iii) Nationalised Banks; (iv) Indian Private Banks; and (v) Foreign Banks in India, as on 31.3.95 and 31.3.96; and

(b) the average rate of interest earned by PSEs on deposits with banks and what is the average rate of interest charged by the banks to the PSEs on loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that their data base does not generate the information called for.

(b) For term deposits between 30 days d upto one year RBI has prescribed ximum rate of interest of 10% and for iod above 1 year banks are free to fix interest rates.

In respect of interest rates on advances, interest rates on loans by all commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) have been prescribed by RBI as follows:

Credit limit	Rate of interest per annum
Loans upto Rs. 25,000/-	12.0 per cent
Loans above Rs. 25,000/- but upto Rs. 2 lakh	13.5 per cent
Loans above Rs. 2 lakh	Free*

RBI has advised banks to fix their Prime Lending Rate (PLR) which will be the minimum lending rate to be charged by them for credit limits over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks may charge higher rates of interest from their borrowers enjoying credit limits over Rs. 2 lakh depending, inter-alia, on credit ratings assigned by the bank. In the monetary policy for the second half of 1996-97, announced by RBI in October 1996, banks have also been advised that along with announcement of PLR, they should also announce the maximum spread over the PLR for all advances (other than consumer credit).

*excepting Export Credit for specified

परिवार कल्याण कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत गैर-सरकारी संगठनों को दी गई वित्तीय सहायता

2651. **श्री अजीत जोगी:**
श्री शमशेर सिंह सुरजेवाला:

क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान परिवार कल्याण कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत विभिन गैर-सरकारी संगठनों को स्वीकृत की गई सहायता राशि का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या स्वीकृत राशि का अपेक्षित प्रयोजन हेतु पूर्ण उपयोग कर लिया गया है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो सरकार द्वारा निधियों का समुचित उपयोग सुनिश्चित करने हेतु जिन संगठनों के कार्यों का वस्तुतः सत्यापन किया गया उनका ब्यौरा क्या है?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री सलीम इकबाल शेरवानी): (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार परिवार कल्याण कार्यक्रम के संवर्धन